Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 /129 R

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, JA, KS, TW

SUBJECT: POLLOCK FISHERY WITHIN U.S. FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE

REF: TOKYO 4463

1. IN ORDER TO AVOID POSSIBLE CONFUSION, FOLLOWING IS ENTIRE TEXT OF MEACHAM LETTER AND ZUCCA RESPONSE:

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR AMBASSADOR RIDGWAY: THE STATE OF ALASKA HAS RECEIVED A NUMBER OF INQUIRIES FROM ASIAN COUNTRIES AS WELL AS FROM MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF FISHERIES PRODUCTS FROM AMERICAN FISHERMEN ON THE HIGH SEAS, OUTSIDE THE TERRITORIAL UATERS OF THE UNITED STATES, BUT WITHIN THE FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE.

WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED INFORMALLY BY THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS THAT SINCE THE AMERICAN FISHERMEN INVOLVED IN THIS TRANS-

ACTION WOULD NOT BE ENTERING FOREIGN TERRITORIAL WATERS

FOR THAT PURPOSE, THERE WOULD BE NO OBJECTION FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE BUREAU TO THESE ARRANGEMENTS.

THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE HAS ALSO GIVEN US INFORMAL ADVICE TO THE EFFECT THAT THIS TRANSACTION OUT.D

NOT BE PROHIBITED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976, P.L. 94-265, BECAUSE THE FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT WOULD NOT OCCUR UNTIL AFTER THE FISH HAD BEEN CAPTURED AND REDUCED TO PERSONAL PROPERTY.

NOTUITHSTANDING THESE ASSURANCES, THERE ARE TWO QUESTIONS WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT. THE FIRST OF THESE QUESTIONS IS WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT WOULD ;AVE ANY OBJECTION TO THIS TYPE OF TRANSACTION?

THE SECOND QUESTION WAS RAISED IN THE FOREIGN INQUIRY TO THE STATE OF ALASKA. THIS IS WHETHER ANY FISH SO CAUGHT AND SOLD WOULD BE COUNTED AGAINST THE COUNTRY ALLOCATION OF THE FOREIGN NATIONALS INVOLVED IN THE TRANSACTION?

YOUR EARLY CONSIDERATION OF THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE APPRECIATED, SINCE THE STATE OF ALASKA VIEWS THIS PROPOSAL AS CONSISTENT WITH ONE OF THE BASIC PURPOSES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF THE ACT, WHICH IS TO "...ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES WHICH ARE CURRENTLY UNDER-UTILIZED OR NOT UTILIZED BY UNITED STATES FISHERMEN, INCLUDING BOTTOM FISH OFF ALASKA.

IF MORE INFORMATION IS REQUIRED, PLEASE CONTACT THE UNDERSIGNED.

SINCERELY, (SIGNED) CHARLES H. MEACHAM, DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. END TEXT.

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. MEACHAM: THIS IS IN REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF FEBRUARY 25 TO AMBASSADOR RIDGWAY, IN WHICH YOU HAVE ASKED TWO QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF FISHERY PRODUCTS FROM AMERICAN FISHERMEN WITHIN THE U.S. FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE GENERAL TYPE OF TRANSACTION WHICH YOU HAVE OUTLINED. ADDITIONALLY,

IT IS OUR VIEW THAT FISH CAUGHT BY U.S. FISHERMEN WITHIN THE U.S. FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE, SOLD TO FOREIGN NATIONALS, NOT BE COUNTED AGAINST ANY QUOTAS WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED BY THE UNITED STATES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FOREIGN NATIONALS INVOLVED IN THE TRANSACTION.

UE HOPE THAT THIS RESPONSE WILL PROVE HELPFUL.

SINCERELY, (SIGNED) ALBERT L. ZUCCA, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF

FISHERIES AFFAIRS.

2. POST SHOULD NOTE THAT FACTORY SHIP ENTERING U.S. FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE WOULD STILL BE REQUIRED TO CARRY APPROPRIATE PERMIT. IN ADDITION, CERTAIN U.S. CUSTOMS OR RELATED REGULATIONS MIGHT ALSO APPLY TO ACTUAL SALE OF FISH TO KOREANS AND TRANSFER TO ROK PROCESSING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VESSEL. ANSWER TO LATTER QUESTION SHOULD BE SOUGHT BY DIRECT APPROACH TO CONCERNED AGENCIES. VANCE

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